Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /064 W

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R 160828Z FEB 77 FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2593 INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL AMEMBASSY TOKYO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, KS, TW

SUBJECT: KIM CHONG PIL'S VISIT TO TAIWAN

REF: SEOUL 1060

1. FORMER SOUTH KOREAN PRIME MINISTER KIM JONG PIL AND THREE KOREAN PARLIAMENTARIANS VISITED TAIWAN FEBRUARY 10-14. HIS WELL-PUBLICIZED ACTIVITIES (WHICH GENERALLY RATED NUMBER TWO STORY AMONG INTERNATIONAL NEWS) HERE INCLUDED VISITS TO ECONOMIC PROJECTS IN TAICHUNG AND KAOHSIUNG AND MEETINGS WITH A WIDE VARIETY OF GOVERNMENT AND PARTY LEADERS SUCH AS PRESIDENT YEN CHIA-KAN, PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO, SENIOR PRESIDENT ADVISOR CHANG CHUN, FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN CHANG-HUAN, AND KMT SECRETARY GENERAL CHANG PAO-SHU. A FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE VISIT WAS DESIGNED TO CONFIRM AND STRENGTHEN FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. MOFA EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR PRIVATELY CHARACTERIZED THE VISIT TO EMBOFF AS A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOOD-WILL VISIT WHICH INCLUDED A GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITHOUT ACHIEVING ANYTHING SPECIFIC. MOFA VICE MINISTER CHIEN CONFIRMED THIS TO AMBASSADOR, ADDING COMMENT SUGGESTING THAT IN CONVERSATION HERE KIM REFLECTED ROK DISAPPOINTMENT THAT VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE DID NOT VISIT SEOUL AND SOME ANNOYANCE WITH JAPANESE HANDLING, IN CONNECTION WITH MONDALE VISIT, OF ISSUE OF WITHDRAWAL U.S. TROOPS FROM KOREA.

2. COMMENT: THE GROC PROBABLY BELIEVES THAT KIM'S POLITICAL STAR IS RISING AGAIN, AND THAT GIVING HIM THE RED-CARPET TREATMENT WILL PAY FUTURE DIVIDENDS.
UNGER

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Message Attributes

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